

Covering the Ho-Chunk Nation

HOCAK WORAK

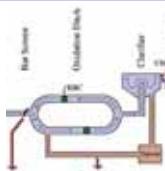


K. LEWIS, 2007

Vol. XXIV, Issue 24

Ca He Wakšu wira | Deer Antler Shedding Moon

December 27, 2010



The Ho-Chunk Nation expands their possibilities

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President Obama addresses Indian Country

John Kozlowicz
Staff Writer

Speaking at the White House Tribal Nations Summit, held December 16, President Barack Obama repeated his commitment to work with the 565 federally recognized Indian tribes throughout the United States.

Building upon his administration's work to strengthen the government-to-government relationship with Indian Country, the President repeated his campaign promise to make sure the needs of Native Americans are not ignored.

"We want to hear more from tribal leaders about what we can do to help create jobs and improve the educational opportunities and health care in Indian Country," Obama said. He added, "We need your help to break down barriers" and promised tribal leaders that his administration will always make sure that "you have a voice in the White House."

Aware that work must be done to improve the economy and create jobs in Indian Country, Obama stressed that while progress has been

made, the solutions cannot be dictated from Washington. "We must work together and invest in tribal infrastructures." He acknowledged that working together the federal government and the tribes need to invest in and create better roads, improved broadband technology, renovated schools and job training programs throughout Indian Country.

He particularly stressed the need to improve educational opportunities on the reservations. Concerned that too many Native youth are dropping out of school and not realizing their potential, Obama warned "We cannot afford to squander the lives of young Native Americans. Your communities can't afford it and our country can't afford it." He vowed that his administration will continue to work to build tribal schools and give tribes the resources to help teach and restore their Native languages.

Aware that in the past, the government has ignored the needs of Indian people, Obama believes that to move forward, the government must first recognize the harm that has been done to generations of people. "We don't want to gloss over and ignore the past," he said. "We need to recognize the damage that has been done in order to move forward." He is optimistic that the Summit "can serve as a turning point between our nations."

He concluded that "we need to respect the cultures of Indian people and that our actions need to match our words and promises."

Ho-Chunk President Wilfrid Cleveland, who attended the Summit, stated that while there was talk about the government-to-government relationship, he found more rhetoric than action. "This conference did not offer true Nation-to-Na-



The 12 tribal leaders who met with President Obama on December 15 represent the geographic diversity of the country. Selected by their regional peer, the leaders included: President Joe Shirley, Jr. of the Navajo Nation, Chairman Cedric Black Eagle of the Crow Tribe, Chairman Robert H. Smith of the Pala Band of Mission Indians, Chief John Red Eagle of the Osage Nation, Chairperson Brenda Edwards of the Caddo Nation of Oklahoma, Chairman Earl Barby of the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe, Chairman Tex G. Hall of the Three Affiliated Tribes, Chairman Mervin Wright, Jr. of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, Chairman Gary Hayes of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, Chairman Brian Cladoosby of the Swinomish Tribe, President Edward K. Thomas of the Central Council Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska and Chairman Karen Diver of the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa.

Official White House photo taken by Pete Souza. Reprinted with permission.

tion relations, but as Ho-Chunk Nation President, I aim to strive toward that for our Ho-Chunk people." He concluded that "as Nations should have our own Native American guidelines and the federal government should follow our guidelines. I believe we have our foot in the door with the Obama Administration and it is time for us to come forth with our guidelines and hold them to it."

The day before, the President met with 12 tribal leaders, a meeting described by National Congress of American Indians President, Jefferson Keel, as "symbolic and substantive." At the meeting, the President repeated to tribal leaders his

commitment to strengthen and build upon the government-to-government relationship with Indian Country.

Keel added "last year's Summit was historic in size and ambition. We anticipate the results of the meetings with the President today and tomorrow will change the future of Indian Country for generations to come."

The White House issued some of the significant ac-

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Want something special placed in the Hocak Worak? Limited space is available so send your request in early. Submissions will be handled on a first come first serve basis.

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President Obama

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compliments of the Obama administration that will benefit all of Indian Country. They include: Making permanent the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, signing into law the Tribal Law & Order Act and signing into the Cobell Settlement, closing the chapter on over a century of government mismanagement of India assets.



Lac du Flambeau Chairman Tom Maulson, LCO Tribal Councilman Michael Isham, Jr. and Ho-Chunk Nation President Wilfrid Cleveland gather for a photo before the conference begins.



Pictured on the stage is Hunter Street, who sang a Lakota flag song as Navajo Code Talkers brought in the colors.

Bringing communities together

Tracy Pecore
Newsletter Editor

The Ho Chunk People have remained and continue to remain one of the strongest Indigenous Nations in the United States. This is because the Elders of the Nation are honored and their teachings have upheld throughout history.

Ho Chunk Elders say that history begins with the creation of all things on earth. They say that Ho-Chunk means "People of the Big Voice," or "People of the Sacred Language." The Ho-Chunk people have always occupied lands in Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois, Nebraska, South Dakota and Minnesota. They have hunted, fished, and gathered plants to provide their food source. The land was sacred because through it the Creator provided all their needs: Food, Clothing, Lodging and the means for their culture to thrive in its existence. (Prepared by the Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Heritage and Preservation: Division of Cultural Resources)

Looking back into the past, money was not the main issue; it was sticking together as a community and helping one another out. Within the Ho-Chunk Nation, there are many communities which means tribal membership is spread out. With today's

everyday struggles and financial challenges, having the support of a community is important and every little bit helps.

Throughout the years fundraisers have helped many in need, whether to raise funds for needed items, special services, or for programs that are not offered through the Ho-Chunk Nation. We must be reminded to be thankful that there are as many programs and opportunities the Nation has to offer for children, adults, and elders; in all the various communities.

Although it can be rough and frustrating at times, bringing a community together through fundraising or special events is a great way to promote responsibility and self empowerment, especially for our younger generations. It can also teach them to appreciate the things they earn and take better care of them.

Taking a look back was a discussion held recently with an elder and it turned into a nice time to reflect on the old times. It was fun to talk about the funny things that happened and the laughter that reflected the good times. Thirty years ago, fundraising was a necessity and giving was the key; everyone brought prizes or what money they could afford to help make money to cover an expense not otherwise affordable. It was heart-

felt assistance to those in need. Some examples of fundraisers discussed were moccasin games, hand games, bingo, food sales or pot lucks, and lots of other games. Both men and women played the games and children were often included too. Fundraising often became nice family gatherings or reunions.

Some fundraisers may also include 50/50 raffles, auctioning off old rez cars, cake-walks, carwashes, or even social dances. Events like these were often held at weddings, birthdays, or other social events to help defray costs. Not only does a fundraiser help assist those in need or help buy a specific item, it's also a good time to socialize and enjoy a few laughs with those you rarely see.

Every area is encouraged to participate in community involvement. Not only do you gain as an individual, but your community gains and becomes more supportive.

For example, the Tomah area holds at least 10 fundraisers per year and the money raised is put back into the community. The last fundraiser was a soup supper and bingo where they raised \$570 and were able to buy a freezer for the community building.



All Ho-Chunk Nation Government Offices will close at noon on December 30, 2010 and all day December 31, 2010.

Please note that we have made some changes in our policy regarding the dispensing of medical supplies and equipment. In the past, when patients came to the clinic seeking medical supplies and equipment, we dispensed them without needing to have an appointment with a provider. The new policy is that in order for patients to receive medical supplies and equipment, an appointment must first be made with a provider. We will only provide in-stock supplies, no special orders for supplies we do not carry. This is to ensure the health and safety of the community we serve. Medical supplies are reserved for clinic patient visits.

Kiana Beaudin, PA-C
Ho-Chunk Nation • House of Wellness Clinic

Correction

Taylan Jae Powless name was misspelled in Issue 23, article: 5 Generations.



Presidential Listening Sessions 2011

The public listening sessions are an opportunity for the Ho-Chunk Nation President, Wilfrid Cleveland and the Departmental Executive Directors to hear from you, Ho-Chunk Nation tribal members. The Office of the President will be holding listening sessions as follows. Please join us:

Listening Session Information:

When: Thursday, January 6, 2011, 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Where: Minneapolis/St. Paul Branch Office building, Griggs Midway Building, 1821 University Avenue, St. Paul, MN. In conference room 330 South (same room used for the area meetings). Please enter the front of the building on the corner of Fairview and University.

When: Monday, January 17, 2011, 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Where: La Crosse Branch Office, (Three Rivers House) 724 Main Street, La Crosse, WI

When: Wednesday, January 19, 2011, 4 pm to 8 pm
Where: Green Bay Radisson Hotel & Conference Center, 2040 Airport Drive, Green Bay, WI

When: Thursday, January 20, 2011, 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Where: Wittenberg Health Office, N 7240 Hwy 49 North, Wittenberg, WI

When: Monday, January 24, 2011, 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Where: Tomah ~ Blue Wing Community Center, 320 Epinal Road, Tomah, WI

When: Tuesday, January 25, 2011, 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Where: Madison Branch Office, 1320 Mendota St. Suite 107-108, Madison, WI

When: Thursday, January 27, 2011, 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Where: WI Dells/Baraboo ~ House of Wellness, S2845 White Eagle Road, Baraboo, WI

When: Monday, January 31, 2011, 4:00pm to 8:00 pm
Where: WI Rapids/Nekoosa ~ Nekoosa Community Building, 916 Chakhiha Chee Lane, Nekoosa, WI

When: Wednesday, February 2, 2011, 4 pm to 8 pm
Where: Black River Falls ~ HHCD Community Building, W8813 Mission Road, BRF, WI

The Office of the President and the Executive Directors will be present to hear your thoughts and take part in conversation pertaining to the Nation and the Executive Branch departments.

We hope you will participate and look forward to hearing from you.

Whooping Cough (Pertussis) in our community

Submitted by
Laura Shaw, NP

Whooping cough is going around the State of Wisconsin and surrounding states. It is a highly contagious respiratory tract infection that starts out like a common cold. It is contagious before the coughing starts. It is extremely contagious to young infants who are not vaccinated. The best way to prevent it is through vaccinations. The childhood vaccine is called DTaP. The

whooping cough booster vaccine for adolescents and adults is called Tdap. Both protect against whooping cough, tetanus and diphtheria.

Pertussis Symptoms

The disease starts like the common cold, with runny nose or congestion, sneezing, and maybe mild cough or fever. But after 1-2 weeks, severe coughing begins. Infants and children with the disease cough violently and rapidly, over and over, until air is

gone from their lungs and they're forced to inhale with a loud "whooping" sound. Pertussis is most severe for babies; more than half of infants less than 1 year of age who get the disease must be hospitalized.

Pertussis is spread by people in close contact with each other through coughing or sneezing on each other. The bacteria are spread through the air.

Prevention

The best way to prevent the spread of the disease is through vaccination. For maximum protection against pertussis, children need five DTaP shots. The first three shots are given 2, 4, and 6 months of age. The fourth shot is given at 15 months of

age, and the fifth shot is given when a child enters school, at 4-5 years of age. Parents can also help protect infants by keeping them away as much as possible from anyone who has cold symptoms or is coughing.

Older children/adolescents and adults should receive their Tdap booster every seven-ten years to prevent spread of the disease. Teenagers should receive their first Tdap booster starting at age 11-12 years of age. Parents, caregivers, and grandparents caring for young children at home, in schools, or daycare settings should receive the Tdap booster.

Remember to always use good hand-washing techniques



From www.cdcinfo.gov

Enjoying exercise in the winter – yes you can!

Submitted by
Kathleen Clemons,
Exercise Physiologist

It is a common question when winter rolls around...what will I do to keep in shape? The good news is that there is plenty to do in the wintertime, so don't let the season get you down. Instead, take action and stay active! Below are some indoor and outdoor ideas to stay fit.

If you haven't tried outdoor activity in the winter now is the time to try. A couple of options are snowshoeing, cross country skiing and plain old walking and running. If you are going to exercise outdoors, it is important that you are prepared so you don't wind up too cold. Dressing properly for winter includes wearing layers that you can take off as you get warm and wearing clothes that "wick" moisture from your body. Wicking refers to technical fabrics that move sweat away from the skin to the outer surface of the fabric where it evaporates. This stops moisture from staying on your skin and decreases your chance of hypothermia. Wearing a good hat, glove, socks and boots is a must. waterproof and windproof are recommended. In addition, I highly recommend investing in Yak Trax Pro. These are somewhat like rubber bands with metal grips that fit over your shoes and give you traction in the winter. They work very well and can help prevent slips and falls in the winter time.

Maybe outdoor activity is just not your thing. Luckily, there are all sorts of indoor activities that you can do.

You may want to consider a short term membership at a gym for the winter time. Many gyms offer specials in the winter and long term contracts are not necessary. Many schools or malls have walking programs that are either no cost or little cost to use. In Black River Falls for example, we have the Lunda Center walking track that people in the community can use for free. Other indoor options include attending group exercise classes or using exercise DVDS. Have you ever thought of starting an exercise club with your friends? You could invest in several DVDs and switch around where you exercise.

Why is it so important to stay active in the winter? Well for those with diabetes, blood sugar starts to rise within two days of no activity. The average weight gain over the holidays is 5 pounds and unfortunately many don't ever lose this and keep adding to it every year. Exercise can help lift your spirits if you suffer from SAD (seasonal affective disorder) which is a type of depression common in the Northern part of the United States in the winter months.

Getting fit and staying fit requires a year round commitment to regular exercise. Don't let winter get you down and stop you in its tracks. You can stay active and you can stay healthy – the choice is yours. Talk to one of our Exercise Physiologists either at the Ho-Chunk Healthcare Clinic or House of Wellness if you have more questions about exercising in the cold weather. Don't let winter beat you, join it!

ATTENTION: The NEXT DEADLINE of the Hocak Worak will be January 7th, which will be published on January 14th. Please contact Enrollment at ext. 1015 if you have a change of address or would like to be placed on the mailing list.

Ho-Chunk Health Care Center in Black River Falls

Diabetes Learning Circle

January 2011

| Date | Topic |
|------------|--|
| January 6 | Seven Self Care Behaviors for Diabetes |
| January 20 | New 2010 Dietary Guidelines |

The Diabetes Learning Circle is a morning presentation and breakfast designed to provide people with information regarding diabetes prevention and management. Anyone is welcome to attend but we ask that you register for a seat.

The program is from 8:30- 9:15 each scheduled day in the Ho-Chunk Health Care Center Conference Classroom. A nutritious breakfast is served during the program. (Topics are subject to change).

**For more information or to register contact:
Kathy Braaten, Community Health Nutritionist, 715-284-9851 ext. 5335**

The Hocak Worak is a periodical published twice monthly by the Ho-Chunk Nation. Editorials and articles appearing in the Hocak Worak are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or attitude of the Hocak Worak staff or the Ho-Chunk Nation.

The Hocak Worak welcomes the submission of letters to the Editor. All letters must include the signature, address and telephone number of the author. Letters are subject to editing for grammar, length, malicious and libelous content. The Hocak Worak reserves the right to reject any advertising, material, or letters submitted for publication. The submission of articles, poetry, artwork and photos is encouraged. The Editor makes the sole decision of what is published in the Hocak Worak. The Hocak Worak will not assume any responsibility for unsolicited material.

Submissions deadlines for the Hocak Worak are by 4:30 PM. We cannot guarantee the publication of submissions meeting these deadlines if the space is not available. No part of this publication may be produced without express written consent from the Editor.

HOCAK WORAK NEWSLETTER
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The Hocak Worak is a member of: **NAJA**
The Native American Journalist Association

Healthcare System experiences changes in 2010

Nancy Rybski, PhD, MBA, CPHQ, Director of Quality Improvement

2010 was a banner year for the Ho-Chunk Healthcare System. In February, Board-Certified Pediatrician Alec Thundercloud, MD, returned to his roots to become Executive Director of Health. In less than one year, Dr. Thundercloud has made sweeping changes in how the Ho-Chunk Nation Healthcare System does business. Identifying himself as an advocate for patients, Dr. Thundercloud has hired staff to make significant improvements in finance, quality improvement, behavioral health, and overall operations in both the Health Care Center and House of Wellness clinics. Changes for the Healthcare System of 2010 include:

- Hiring Deborah Marynak,

DDS as the dentist for HHCC. Dr. Marynak sees patients of all ages, and is working hard to educate families on dental care.

- Hiring of Ledora McDougle as Director of Medical Services. Ms. McDougle oversees budgets, clinical staff issues, and overall operation of the Healthcare System. She is Dr. Thundercloud's right hand.

- Hiring Nancy Rybski, PhD. Dr. Rybski is a Certified Professional in Healthcare Quality and oversaw the AAAHC accreditation survey at the House of Wellness. Thanks to hard work on the part of all HOW employees, the AAAHC accreditation was awarded for three years. Surveyors noted the caring and compassion all HOW staff showed for their patients. Dr. Rybski also advocates for pa-

tients as she responds to patient complaints.

- Hiring Julie Abbott-Jones as Director of Behavioral Health. Dr. Abbott-Jones is working on certifying all Nation behavioral health clinics so that additional Federal funding can be obtained. Dr. Abbott-Jones also added a licensed psychologist to her staff, as well as another licensed therapist.

- Hiring John Degen, CPA, as Director of Finance. Mr. Degen is working diligently on generating the cost reports that, since they had not been completed in a timely manner in a previous Healthcare Administration, cost the Nation millions of dollars. Dr. Thundercloud's and Mr. Degen's goals are to recoup financial losses and establish a steady stream of revenue from the clinics, making us less de-



Dr. Alec Thundercloud's philosophy is, "All clinical staff members are active members of a team, and we're all dedicated to providing the highest level of care we can for our patients. Simply, we are here to serve you."

pendent on the Nation for income.

- Promoted Judy Huebel, RN to Nurse Educator. Ms.

Huebel is working diligently with the Nation's patients on diabetes control and smoking cessation.

Black River Falls Area Green School seeks new home

John Kozlowicz
Staff Writer

On November 30, the Ho-Chunk Legislature was asked to approve a \$25,000 donation to the Black River Falls Area Green School-BRAGS, a project based learning environment that is part of the Black River Falls School District.

The BRAGS Mission Statement outlines its intentions as a school that provides a different learning opportunity.

The Black River Area Green School mission is to create a learning environment that utilizes student centered project based learning, to foster leadership and promote environmental awareness and to instill an environmental ethic within the student body and the community as a whole, while meeting the School District of Black River Falls criteria for earning a diploma.

In its second year, the school currently has 11 students (including two Ho-Chunk students) and would like to upgrade its facility. Classes are currently held at the former Campfire Girls site, five miles east of Black River Falls and BRAGS Coordinator Mark Weddig stated that to better take advantage of the unique opportunity a new building is needed.

He stated that the Nation's donation would be used to purchase the building materials for the new school, "the last piece of the puzzle." He continued that community volunteers have already committed to supply the equipment and labor and a site has been selected. The future home of the school is on property owned by three townships and the City of Black River Falls. Weddig explained that because of an

earlier agreement, the land will be given to the school district to use for environmental service. BRAGS can use the land forever. "We're ready to go," he said.

Weddig continued that the new BRAGS would have a maximum enrollment of 24 students in grades 10-12 and that the students would be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis. He added that because of Wisconsin's Open Enrollment Policy, students do not have to reside in the Black River Falls School District.

BRAGS students begin their day with a class at Black River Falls High School before spending the rest of the day involved in "innovative, environmentally focused education through projects that they design and complete themselves."

Students are given the option on concentrating in one of four areas; Organic Farming, Resource Management, Sustainable Lifestyles and "Green" Technology. Weddig stressed that the traditional classroom style is not a part of BRAGS. Provided with a laptop computer, students are required to design and implement projects of their choice within one of the four areas of study. "The students take ownership of each project," Weddig said.

"Students at BRAGS use the area's natural resources, forest and trails as learning libraries and substitute hands-on learning for classroom training," Weddig said. For example, he explained that physical education credits are not earned by playing basketball or running. In addition to being given a bike, students earn credits for canoeing, climbing, camping and skiing. Weddig explained that in its

brief history, BRAGS students have also taken the opportunity to teach younger students some of what they have learned.

He added that BRAGS students are eligible to participate in extracurricular activities at the high school and those students who complete the BRAGS requirements will have met and exceeded Black River High School graduation requirements. "Students earn a Black River Falls High School diploma," he said.

Addressing the Legislature, some members of the Ho-Chunk Nation stated their support for BRAGS, including Interim Executive Director of Education, Angela Ward. Ward noted "that because quite a few of our Ho-Chunk youth are having difficulty in the traditional setting of a high school," BRAGS may provide a good education option for some students. "This is also an-

other opportunity for the Ho-Chunk Nation to have its youth learn more about "Green" alternatives for today's society," she reasoned. "We may have one of our youth who will find a very viable green solution to running many of our operations."

Former Executive Director of Education, Barbara Blackdeer Mackenzie believes that BRAGS "is an excellent alternative to us being able to operate our own school." She explained that BRAGS could serve as an educational option for students who would otherwise drop out of school and believes that BRAGS students could benefit "by learning a face-to-face sense of community mindedness."

Michelle Greendeer believes that a new BRAGS school would enhance the community and perhaps inspire others. The parent of a current BRAGS student, she stated that she has watched

her child become more socially responsible about the environment and mature with the independence of project based learning. She added "that fortunately, the 'Green' philosophy is not much more different than the Native appreciation for Mother Earth and all the things she holds."

Susan Weber added, "as a parent of a BRAGS student, I have witnessed my son's improved responsibility and pride in his life due to his project based learning." She and others agree that students who attend the project based school have a head start on their education by having the opportunity to direct their own projects and outcomes.

Parents, students and prospective partners wanting to learn more about BRAGS are invited to call Mark Weddig at 715-284-4324, Ext. 2002 during normal school hours.



GENERAL COUNCIL AGENCY NOTICE

GCA Vacancies:

GCA has Alternate positions available in Green Bay and Madison, WI.

GCA Agents will attend a monthly meeting. In the event of an Agent's absence the

Alternate must attend.

If you have any questions please call 715-284-9343 ext. 1086 Michelle De Cora or ext. 1075 Pine Giroux



RADD Runners return from sunny Hawaii

Sara L. Peterson
Staff Writer

Since 1999 after a trip to Honolulu, in honor of Louella Blackdeer, Ho-Chunk youth (ages 13-19) participate in Runners against Drunk Driving and go through a rigorous 4 month training schedule with the help of Coaches Erwin Begay and Lani Blackdeer. All runners participate voluntarily and give up hours of their free time in the evenings and on weekends to train for the annual R.A.D marathon held in Hawaii, with thousands of participants from all over the United States that take part.

This program affects these young runners in more ways than one. It teaches them discipline and responsibility. When they sign up they are vaguely aware of the struggles they may come to face while in training. They face the physical strains on their body as well as the emotional ones. It takes a lot of heart to keep pushing on when your body keeps telling you to stop. Finding a way to balance school work and keeping up with the training is also a struggle.

On December 8, 2010 our intrepid Ho-Chunk runners embarked on their journey to Hawaii. After training for 4 months straight with each week adding more miles to complete, they were now facing pain, wind and rain. To say these runners are determined is

an understatement. It takes patience and a solid foundation and commitment to run mile after mile, but most importantly it takes heart and compassion to do it for a cause greater than yourself. These young runners are running to support putting an end to drunk driving. If their goodwill and determination persuades even one driver to abstain from driving under the influence they have made a huge impact.

Despite jet lag and a rocky start to the trip the runners gathered their strength and they all completed the marathon. Coach Begay was very proud and acknowledged that all of the runners had finished the race. He said, "at a certain point in the race, runners tend to hit a mental wall where their minds start to wander; they have a hard time pushing on." This is where he likes to set up and patiently wait for the runners to show them they are almost done and they are doing an excellent job. He said, "It gives them hope and courage to keep moving forward."

Parents are instrumental in their child's success. Day after day these parents are encouraging their children and giving them that extra little push to keep going with support and motivation to continue. During the marathon, sometimes a catch of their eye helps keep these young runners in



2010 RADD runners honored at a luncheon held on December 15.

a good mind frame to keep going.

Upon their return to Wisconsin the runners were welcomed with 24 inches of snow and a congratulatory luncheon held in their honor, with family and friends, on December 16 at the Veteran's Affairs building. It is apparent how much camaraderie is shared between this group of young runners.

Lani Blackdeer holds a special place in her heart for these runners and the pride for them showed on her face. These runners have faced a lot and learned a lot through the training process and the marathon itself. The lifelong lessons they have learned will be with them forever. Their accomplishments only prove that there are so many amazing things in life that they can accomplish.

Finishing Times as follows:

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| Tiana Sargent (BRF) | 06:13:48 |
| Waverly Bird (BRF) | 07:19:24 |
| Tiana Pettibone (BRF) | 07:19:24 |
| Izaak Ortiz (BRF) | 06:58:06 |
| Cyrus Ortiz (BRF) | 07:25:00 |
| Maleana Cloud (BRF) | 08:51:01 |
| Jasmine Funmaker (BRF) | 06:40:51 |
| Arianna Greencrow (Lake Delton) | 06:45:23 |
| Cherish Lonetree (Lake Delton) | 05:14:35 |
| Justice Blackhawk (BRF) | 04:57:53 |
| Joshua Cloud Jr. (BRF) | 07:34:29 |

OLD TIMERS:

| | |
|----------------------------|----------|
| Heather Hillmer | 04:13:49 |
| Dana Lonetree (WI Dells) | 06:40:20 |
| Brittany Yazzie (WI Dells) | 05:26:42 |
| Nicole Yazzie (WI Dells) | 05:33:08 |
| Amber Dowling (BRF) | 06:16:13 |
| Dan Stacy (Tomah) | 09:01:49 |

Expanding our possibilities

Building plans necessitate updated water treatment plant

Sara L. Peterson
Staff Writer

In November 2010, the Wazee Waste Water Commission requested approval from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to upgrade and expand the Wazee Wastewater Treatment Plant located in Black River Falls, near Indian Mission. The plant has been in operation since 1995.

The Wazee System provides wastewater services to the Ho-Chunk Villages of Sandpillow and Indian Mission and to the Jackson County Correctional Institute (JCI). At the present time JCI accounts for 67 percent of the wastewater flow, and thus, pays for 67 percent of the maintenance and operation costs, while the Ho-Chunk Nation pays the remaining 33 percent.

The expansion of the Wastewater Treatment Facility was prompted by plans for development by the Ho-Chunk Nation which may include an expansion of Ho-Chunk Gaming Black River Falls, commercial businesses, community facilities and housing. JCI is not planning any expansion at this time. The project is estimated to cost approximately 10.3 million dollars. When the project is finished the Ho-Chunk Nation will continue to provide services to the Jackson County Correctional Institute and will divide continue to divide the operational costs based on the amount of flows from each entity..

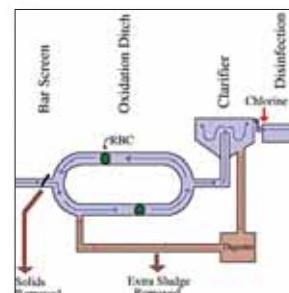
The proposed project will construct a mirror image of the existing plant and will double the capacity of wastewater that the plant can treat. In addition to constructing a second oxidation ditch, a new headworks building will be constructed which will improve fine screening and resolve the ventila-

tion issues that currently exist in the present building. One additional tank will be added to the system to provide for biological phosphorus removal. Phosphorus levels are monitored closely to protect the quality of the water in the Black River where the treated wastewater is discharged. The expansion will include a second clarifier, an upgrade to the disinfection unit, and improvements to thicken the sludge.

A public hearing was held in September to hear concerns about the expansion of the plant and no negative comments were aired. The Wazee Wastewater Plant has an excellent record of meeting their permit requirements. Constant monitoring occurs at the plant and the results are sent to the WI DNR. Comments and concerns

will still be taken into consideration, written or verbal comments can be directed to Scott Boran at DNR, Box 7921, Madison, Wisconsin 53707 or at 608-266-7385 or by email Scott.Boran@wisconsin.gov .

In order for the Nation to pursue the planned developments of the Ho-Chunk Nation, more capacity is needed to treat the additional wastewater that will be generated by the users. Approval of the Facility Plan has been received by the DNR and the Nation will now enter into the Design Phase which will precede construction. The tentative schedule will begin construction in July of 2011 and complete the project in the Fall of 2012. The Nation is seeking funding for the project by using the Wisconsin Clean Water Fund.



OXIDATION SYSTEMS: An example of how an oxidation ditch works.

Proposed soda tax

Sara L. Peterson
Staff Writer

In 2010, President Obama wants to enact a comprehensive health care overhaul. This health care overhaul would expand health insurance coverage to all Americans. The catch is that it would make insurance coverage mandatory to all Americans, and is projected to cost around \$1.2 trillion.

Possible funds to pay for this plan are expected to come out of our pockets in the form of a soda tax. The Center for Science in the Public Interest, a Washington-based watchdog group has proposed this soda tax, with the goal to get food companies to produce healthier foods. Beverages that would be taxed are soda, fruit drinks, energy drinks, sport

drinks and certain teas. The belief behind this is the supporting facts that Americans are quickly becoming overweight and obese. An epidemic of Diabetes and childhood Diabetes is running rapid through the country.

Research has found that this added tax may lower consumption therefore increasing Americans health which in turn would lower insurance medical payouts. There are already a dozen states that have a tax on sugary beverages, Wisconsin included. If this plan was to be enacted the tax would increase 3 cents per 12 ounces, and would generate over \$24 billion dollars.

The Ho-Chunk Nation has a high rate of diabetes and has been providing screening and preventative care against it. Being Native American we

are twice as likely to develop diabetes. Poor eating habits and lack of exercise have contributed to weight gain which can cause diabetes. We are lucky to have programs in place to help battle this disease, and with the majority of our facilities having beverage machines, we would be affected by this tax.

The possibility of this proposed tax is dependent upon the health care overhaul. President Barack Obama has already been sidelined by a legal setback. A federal judge declared this legislation unconstitutional. However, if this health care proposal is taken straight through to the Supreme Court it is predicted that it would go through.

Ho-Chunk Nation Gaming Commission welcomes two new members

John Kozlowicz
Staff Writer

During a ceremony held December 13 at the Ho-Chunk Nation Wa Ehi Hoci, Daniel Blumer, Steve Garvin and Darren Brinegar were sworn in by Judge Todd Matha as members of the Ho-Chunk Nation Gaming Commission.

Appointed by the Legislature, Gaming Commissioners are responsible for the enforcement of the Ho-Chunk Nation Gaming Ordinance, the Tribal/State Compact, the Nation's Internal Controls Manual and any other applicable laws.

The Commission monitors all Class II and Class III gaming on the Nation's lands and all monthly reports and an-

nual audits or such activities to insure that such activities conform to the provisions of the Ho-Chunk Gaming Ordinance, the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act and the National Indian Gaming Committee regulations.

First appointed to the Gaming Commission in 2006, Blumer was appointed to serve another four-term that will end in June 2014. Newcomers Garvin and Brinegar fill existing vacancies on the Commission. Garvin, the former General Manager at Ho-Chunk Gaming-Black River Falls, was appointed to serve until June 2014. Brinegar, the former General Manager at Ho-Chunk Gaming-Nekoosa, was appointed to serve until June 2012.



Gaming Commissioners Darren Brinegar (left), Steve Garvin and Dan Blumer at the swearing-in ceremony held December 13.

Wisconsin tribes, WisDOT, and FHWA sign revised historic partnership agreement

Submitted by
Wisconsin Department of
Transportation

Representatives from Wisconsin's eleven federally recognized tribes, Federal Highway Administration and Wisconsin Department of Transportation [WisDOT] Secretary Frank Busalacchi

joined at the State Capitol in Madison, Wisconsin on Tuesday, October 26 to commemorate the historic WisDOT Tribal Partnership Agreement, originally signed in May 2005. Although the spirit of the agreement remains focused on partnership and mutual respect, the revised



President Cleveland joined other tribal leaders in signing the 2010 Revised WisDOT Tribal Partnership Agreement on October 26, 2010 at the Wisconsin State Capital Governors Conference room.



Partnership Agreement signatories (l-r): Russell Barber, Vice Chairman of the Lac Courte Oreilles Lake Superior Band of Chippewa; Laurie Boivin, Chairperson of the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin; Tom Maulson, President of the Lac du Flambeau Lake Superior Band of Chippewa; Harold Frank, Chairman of the Forest County Potawatomi Community; Secretary Frank Busalacchi, Wisconsin Department of Transportation; George Poirier, Wisconsin Division Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration; Wilfrid Cleveland, President of the Ho-Chunk Nation; and Kevin Chesnik, Administrator of the Division of Transportation System Development at Wisconsin Department of Transportation.



Winnebago Sons Drum Group.

agreement now includes measurable goals and outlines other transportation initiatives designed to strengthen state and tribal economies.

The partnership agreement is an extension of the Governor's Executive Order #39, which is an affirmation of the government-to-government relationship between the state of Wisconsin and Indian tribal governments located in Wisconsin. The agreement promotes partnership between the state and tribes on transportation related issues.

Over the past five years, the partnership agreement has resulted in many successful transportation projects such as the Tribal Task Force; Tribal Historic Preservation Project; Tribal Transportation Conference; the Tribal Transportation Safety Project, as well as the Tribal Road Safety Summit held in the fall of 2009. Another integral component of the agreement is the Annual Tribal Leaders' Consultation meeting hosted by WisDOT's Secretary. This meeting provides a unique opportunity for tribal leaders to continue a dialogue about a shared vision for future tribal initiatives at WisDOT.

This historic event represented a monumental step forward in improving state, federal and tribal relations in the state. For more information regarding the partnership agreement or tribal affairs initiatives within WisDOT contact Kelly Jackson, statewide tribal liaison at (608) 266-3671 or kelly.jackson@dot.wi.gov.

Ho-Chunk Nation donates to the VFW Unmet Needs Program

Sara L. Peterson
Staff Writer

On December 07, 2010 the Ho-Chunk Nation presented a \$1000 check to the VFW (Veteran's of Foreign Wars) Unmet Needs Program at the

Burger King located in Black River Falls. Robert Mann – Tribal Veteran's Service Officer, and Harold Severson from the VFW were also present and spoke on behalf of all service members.



(L-R) Tribal Veterans Service Officer Robert Mann, HCG Black River Falls Marketing Assistant Angie Melbye, WWIS Radio Dave Meyer, Owner of Burger King Mike Derosa, VFW 1959 Thompson Redcloud Commander Harold Severson.

Since 2007, the "buy a burger; donate a buck" campaign has brought in over \$500,000 and has become an annual fundraising event. Participating states included: Alaska, Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Jersey, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

The *VFW Unmet Needs* program provides emergency financial assistance to U.S. military service members experiencing financial hardships, often brought on by deployment. Funds from donations are available to the five branches of service (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard), as well as members of the Reserves and National Guard.



The VFW 1959 Thompson Redcloud group were present for the check presentation for the Unmet Needs Program. Ho-Chunk Gaming Black River Falls donated \$1,000 for the second year.

Funds awarded by the program are offered in the form of grants—not loans—so recipients don't need to repay them.

The fundraising goal this year is set at \$750,000, to

support military families and veterans that have financial problems. A live radio feed was also done by WWIS and a total of \$37,951 was raised at the local Black River Falls Burger

Tomah Veterans Memorial

Sara L. Peterson
Staff Writer

On December 17, representatives of the Ho-Chunk Nation donated a \$7,500 check to help with building a Veteran's memorial located in Tomah, WI. A project which was started back in 2008 when a group of veterans came together and formed the Tomah Area Veterans Memorial Campaign will now see their vision come true.

After several months of planning and designing, a site was chosen by the planning committee (through an art contest) to build the Veteran's memorial just south of the WWII vintage U.S. Army M4A4 Sherman Tank, located in Tomah's downtown Butts Park.

The main purpose of the memorial is to honor and pay tribute to all Veterans that fought and those that lost their lives in combat. The original estimate for the monument was estimated to be \$135,000 which the committee was able to raise through tile and brick sales, as well as local donations. Recent estimates came in a \$150,000 due to the cost of granite going up.

Ho-Chunk Nation veterans, along with Public Relations Specialist CaraLee Murphy, Ho-Chunk nation Legislator Jim Greendeer, and Veterans Services Officer Robert Mann were in attendance to present the donation. Jim Greendeer spoke on behalf of all Veterans and as a Ho-Chunk representative before the check

was presented, and explained how the Ho-Chunk Nation is a warrior society and how we have many veterans that have fought and that "this memorial is something we as a Nation are very pleased to help support."

Tomah Mayor John Rusch spoke on how much of an impact the Ho-Chunk Nation has made on Tomah. With his initiative and the Ho-Chunk Nation's support, the Ho-Chunk Cinema was built in Tomah. His gratitude for the Nation came through in his sincere thank you. WKBT Lacrosse and WEAU Eau Claire also broadcasted the check presentation on the evening news.

Tiles and bricks can be purchased or donations can be made by contacting the

Tomah Area Veterans Memorial Campaign at P.O. Box 625, Tomah, WI 54660. For more information call 1-608-

372-2166 or visit the online site at www.tomahveterans-memorial.com.



Legislator Jim Greendeer was present to help issue the \$7,500 check donated to help assist the Tomah Veteran's Memorial.

Veterans Home Ownership Program taking the next steps

Legislature presented with four housing scenarios

John Kozlowicz
Staff Writer

Earlier this year, the Legislature passed Resolution 10-05-10G to provide funding for the acquisition of housing for Ho-Chunk enrolled Veterans. At that time, the Legislature approved allocating \$4,000,000 to establish a Veterans Home Ownership Program (VHOP) in the 2011-2012 fiscal year.

On December 21, the Ho-Chunk Nation Legislature was presented with four scenarios to be considered as they discuss specifics of the proposed program. No decision has been made on how the program will be funded, who will administer the program or the best way to provide the greatest benefit to the 149 known current and future honorably

discharged veterans that have been deemed eligible to participate.

Current plans state the funding could be used to build a new home, purchase or refinance an existing home. The four scenarios presented by the VHOP workgroup include representatives from the Legislative Branch, Executive Branch and the Ho-Chunk Housing and Community Development Agency. The workgroup outlined possible funding alternatives and housing options to be considered. As the Legislature will be allocating the funding for the program, they ultimately have the final say on which scenario will be selected. They also have the authority to reject all the proposals and open the door to new ideas.

Scenario # 1 would provide services under provisions of the current Housing Act but would add the VHOP as a third component of what is currently in place, except with a scoring criteria identifying years of service, metals received, etc. Once approved by the Department of Veteran Affairs, an applicant would receive funding in the form of a loan with a three percent interest rate and would make payments until reaching the age of 55, at which time the balance would be suspended via a shelter agreement.

Scenario # 2 would award 50/50 funding. The payback would be equally divided between a loan and a grant. The loan would be repaid at 3 percent until the veteran turns 55, when the balance would be

suspended via a shelter agreement.

Scenario # 3 would award 100% funding estimated to be approximately \$ 125,000, which would be in the form of a NPD grant.

Scenario # 4 would provide the funding to establish potential veterans communities within the Nation's general communities. Under this scenario, in the first year the Nation would build one (1) two-bedroom duplex in Black River Falls, Tomah, Wisconsin Dells, Nekoosa and Wittenberg.

The total building expense would be approximately \$1.2 million and the five duplexes would provide housing for 10 veteran families. Occupants would only be responsible for the cost of utilities in their unit.

Though the Executive Branch and the Legislature are both expected to have input in the decision, the final decision rests with the Legislature, who initially approved the resolution for the VHOP. Some unanswered questions presented before the Legislature include:

- Under this program, do we provide services to only honorably discharged veterans?
- What type of payback is required under the program, if any?
- Is the \$ 4,000,000 a one time or a yearly allocation (current resolution states annually)?
- When will the funds be allocated? Where will the funds be allocated to?
- When will the program start?

2010 - Year in review

JANUARY

Margarite Hernandez-White is crowned 2010 New Year's Sobriety Princess.

The Legislature announces that changes will be made to the Nation's Employee Benefit Insurance Program. Among the changes are initiatives that will encourage those insured to take a proactive approach to their own health by voluntary participation in a Value Based Wellness Program.

Ho-Chunk Bingo in Wisconsin Dells introduces "Galaxie Bingo," a fast paced form of the game designed to attract a younger crowd in an alcohol free setting.

First Nation Community Federal begins its day-to-day operation at the BlueWing Cultural Center in Tomah. The business is the result of a merger between the Nation's Small Business and Financial Literacy Programs and the First Nation Community Federal, established by HHCD. The new office is expected to provide tribal members "one stop financial shopping under one umbrella," said Financial Director Justine Rufus.

FEBRUARY

Visitors to the Nation's website, www.ho-chunk.com, see something new when clicking on one of the Nation's gaming enterprises. Senior Marketing Manager, Jim Webster stated that by "branding" all of the Nation's gaming enterprises under one umbrella, those searching the site will immediately become aware of the Nation's different sites. All the individual logos will be replaced in the near future, he said.

As a response to rumored gang activity in the Black River Falls area, the Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Social Services conducted a "Taking Back Our Community" forum at Majestic Pines Bingo Hall. Law enforcement officials discussed the responsibility everyone has to keep their community safe.

The Department of Business announces potential expansion projects at the Nation's gaming enterprises.

The Wisconsin State Assembly passes Assembly Bill 35 designed to eliminate the use of race-based nicknames, logos and mascots in Wisconsin public schools. Under provisions of the Bill, district residents can file a complaint to the State Superintendent of Public Schools if they feel a nickname, logo or mascot is discriminatory. If the State agrees, the district has one year to eliminate what is being used.



Family members of fallen warriors Elliot DeCora and Anthony LaMere at the Vietnam Veteran's Ceremony held March 29.



Legislator Pettibone gives Actor Adam Beach a ribbon shirt as he makes visits with youth throughout Ho-Chunk Country and tells his story.



"Big Town" from Florida captures First Place at the Annual March Madness Basketball Tournament held at the House of Wellness.



Bringing in the colors at LZ Lambeau, that welcomed home Vietnam veterans.



Work begins on the renovation of the Andrew Blackhawk Pow-Wow Grounds.



Blue Wing Cemetery near Tomah is expanded.

2010 REVIEW

MARCH

Tribal members from 11 different affiliated tribes in Wisconsin attended the American Indian Student Achievement Network Conference at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. Workshops dealt with eliminating racism, setting action plans and getting more Native students to become teachers in public school systems.

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point hosted a Language Symposium to discuss how tribal communities are working to keep their language and culture alive for future generations.

On March 29, the Ho-Chunk Nation celebrates Vietnam Veterans Day. Signed into law by Gov. James Doyle, every March 29 will be set aside to honor residents who served in the Vietnam era (1959-1975). According to the Ho-Chunk Nation office of Veteran Affairs, 216 Ho-Chunk men and women served in that era.

The 11th Annual March Madness Basketball Tournament is held at the House of Wellness. This year 16 men's and eight women's teams competed in the weekend long tournament. Other events included the "Little Hoopsters" youth tournament, a 3-point shot and Slam Dunk contests.

The Ho-Chunk Nation is one of 13 tribal governments awarded a Renewable Energy Project Grant.

APRIL

The Annual Keeping Hope Alive Diabetes Conference is held at Ho-Chunk Convention Center. Speakers and workshops focused on preventing and living with diabetes.

Work begins on the renovation of the Andrew Blackhawk Pow-Wow Grounds. Wider roads, new signs, a paved parking lot and better lighting will offer visitors a more comfortable, safer environment. Work is expected to be completed in time for the Memorial Day Weekend Pow-Wow.

The Nation announces that per stipulations in its last gaming compact with the State of Wisconsin, on May 10, county governments where the Nation has trust land property, will receive \$1,000 for each acre the land has in trust within that county's borders.

The Wisconsin State Senate passes Senate Bill 25 mandating that public school districts that fail to stop using Indian mascots, logos or nicknames be subject to financial penalties. The Bill is similar to AB 25 passed earlier by the Wisconsin State Assembly.

MAY

During a luncheon held at Ho Chunk-Gaming- Nekoosa, Nation officials presented Wood County representatives a check for \$23, 500. The money was already used to purchase an International chassis, that when equipped, will be the county's only Sheriff's Rescue Vehicle.

Using a provision in Wisconsin Senate Bill 287 that will allow municipalities and the Wisconsin DOT to transfer roads near Indian lands to the tribes, the Nation announces that in 2011, a one-mile stretch of Mission Road in Townships of Komensky and Brockway will be repaired.

From May 20-23 Vietnam era veterans were encouraged to attend LZ Lambeau, an event that recognized Wisconsin residents who served in the conflict.

The Night of Remembrance, held at the Andrew Blackhawk Pow-Wow Grounds serves as tribute to people battling cancer.



Governor Doyle signs Bill 287 into law as tribal leaders, including President Cleveland look on.



Boye Ladd shares his story at the Memorial Day Pow-Wow.



The Annual Elder Picnic was held June 16 in Pittsville.



Rep. Greg Littlejohn at the District 5 picnic held July 15 in St. Paul.



Da-xu Coffee branding.

JUNE

Named after Ah-Who-Chue-Ga, Blue Wing Cemetery near Tomah recently had its borders expanded for the second time in the last half-century. The latest expansion added 0.33 acres to the existing 1.5 acre site.

It was recently announced that City of Beloit officials and representatives of the Bad River and St. Croix Chippewa Tribes and the Ho-Chunk Nation are preparing to enter negotiations regarding a possible casino development project in Beloit.

The Department of Business announces plans to develop a renewable project that would focus on biomass. The plan is to develop a site that would use trash or municipal waste and burn them to create electricity.

At a ribbon-cutting ceremony held June 21, Ho-Chunk Gaming-Wisconsin Dells donated a disaster trailer and contents to the Badger Chapter of the American Red Cross. The trailer will be the first respondent when a disaster strikes in Adams, Columbia, Juneau or Sauk Counties. The total donation exceeded \$12,000.

Approximately 75 Ho-Chunk elders attend the annual picnic held at Northwoods County Park near Pittsville.

JULY

Hundreds attend the 4th of July Traditional Pow-Wow honoring Mitchell Red Cloud, Jr.

The Ho-Chunk Nation completes negotiations to purchase the Western Wisconsin Technical College Building in Black River Falls. Beginning early next year, the site will become the headquarters for the Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Social Services.

A late afternoon tornado struck the Dells Dam community on July 14. Though no one was seriously hurt, Ho-Chunk Nation personnel and other volunteers spent the next few days helping residents, including 12 Ho-Chunk families clean up the area.

Ho-Chunk Gaming-Wisconsin Dells earns top marks in readers' poll. It was named as having the best selection of slot machines, favorite casino hotel with most comfortable rooms and best hotel amenities by readers of Midwest Gaming & Travel.

Members of District V held their 1st Annual Picnic at Cherokee Park in St. Paul, MN.

Ho-Chunk member Ray Lopez, a member of Andrew Blackhawk American Legion Post 129 is named County Commander of the Year at the Legion's Annual Department Convention.

Osseo-Fairchild becomes the first school district in the State of Wisconsin ordered to change its Indian based nickname, logo and mascot. Earlier this year, the Wisconsin Legislature passed Act 250, giving local residents the right to challenge race-based names in Wisconsin school districts.



Ray Lopez, Commander of the Andrew Blackhawk American Legion Post 129 is named County Commander of the Year at the Legion's State Convention held in Wausau July 14-18.



The Annual Mitchell Red Cloud, Jr. Traditional Pow-Wow is held July 4 in Black River Falls.



Hinu Smith, Rita Kingswan, and Ona Garvin help Trenton Littlejohn find his way at the Language Immersion Camp held at the Whirling Thunder Ranch.



Dan Libke is named the Nation's First Chief of Police.



Heavy rains battered Central Wisconsin from September 22-25.



Hundreds attend the Annual Labor Day Pow-Wow in Black River Falls.



The staff and students at the Niikuusa Community School that opened October 4 in Nekoosa.

AUGUST

During the Ho-Chunk Community Safety Summit held August 4-5 in Wisconsin Dells the Nation announced that it is preparing to become the ninth tribal government in the State of Wisconsin with its own law enforcement agency.

The Language Summer Immersion Camp completes the final of two sessions held at the Whirling Thunder Ranch near Tomah.

Officials from the Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Business introduced Da-xu Coffee, a fair trade product, at the Whitetail Convenience Store in Black River Falls. Officials believe the new product will open the doors to new markets and expand the Nation's business portfolio.

Approximately 300 enrolled tribal members and foster parents and children attend the Annual Family Wellness Retreat at the Ho-Chunk Convention Center

The House of Wellness Pharmacy recently completed an expansion that tripled its space to over 1,100 square feet. Ho-Chunk Director of Pharmacy, Ted Hall announced the expansion will allow the Nation to offer a wider range of medications.

SEPTEMBER

Over 300 dancers and 15 drums competed and entertained during the Labor Day Pow-Wow held in Black River Falls.

Twelve teams competed in the 13th Annual Co-ed Softball Tournament held at the Sandpillow diamonds. Team North Star Casino, took 1st Place in the event.

On September 18, the Annual General Council registered 1,901 Ho-Chunk members, and was held at Ho-Chunk Convention Center. The 2010 meeting was the first General Council planned and prepared by the General Council Agency.

The Legislature announced plans to demolish Ho-Chunk Lodge in Lake Delton. In 1994, the former Bahama Bay Resort Lodge was purchased to provide tribal members visiting the area a place to stay. In recent years it has fallen into disrepair and the estimated cost to repair the building was \$ 1.5 million.

On September 11, the Nation's members and employees paused to remember those who died on September 11, 2001.

During a ceremony held at the Executive Building, Dan Libke becomes the Nation's First Chief of Police. The position is seen as a key step in the Nation creating a law enforcement agency that will better serve tribal members living in tribal communities.

Heavy floods close many Wisconsin highways and roads the weekend of September 24. Throughout the weekend, personnel at Ho-Chunk gaming enterprises did what they could to help those stranded.

Ho-Chunk Nation Tribal Census Liaison, Sandy Blackdeer, an employee in the Planning Division, gets recognized by the U.S Census Bureau for helping to paint the "portrait of America."

OCTOBER

Throughout the month, the Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Social Services holds community events that focus on the role of education in preventing domestic violence.

Tribal members and employees participate in the Dam Challenge near La Farge, WI. The event consisted of a seven-mile canoe or paddle trip, a 14-mile bike ride and a three-mile run.

Throughout the month, seminars and conferences continue to focus on the prevention of crime and gang violence in Ho-Chunk communities. Included were all day workshops held in Tomah and Black River Falls.

The Niikuusa Community opens in Nekoosa. Currently four students in grades 5-8 are attending the project based that focuses on teaching the Nation's language and culture, with Ho-Chunk tribal member Ona Garvin as one of the teachers.

The Ho-Chunk Nation Court System hosts the 15th Annual Law Day in conjunction with the quarterly meeting of the Wisconsin Tribal Judges Association, Inc.

Continued on Page 10

Democracy in America: the U.S. signs on to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Submitted by

Samantha Greendeer

Indian country made history on December 16, 2010 when President Obama announced that the United States now supports the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Tribal leaders attending the White House Tribal Nations Conference at the U.S. Department of the Interior during the announcement day were pleasantly stunned to be the first to hear that the U.S. finally came through in its international commitment to strengthen government-to-government relationships with federally recognized tribes and significantly improve its policy on indigenous issues.

Law school mentors consistently told me that I needed to closely follow the U.S. and its dealings with other Nations to truly comprehend the concept of sovereignty. They could not be more correct. In the summer of 2003, I ventured to Geneva, Switzerland to pursue international legal coursework and observe the United Nations' Working Group for Indigenous Affairs meeting. With butterflies in my stomach, I observed the United States representatives marginalize the rights of indigenous peoples worldwide in the name of global economic development. Indigenous peoples from every country made the costly pilgrimage to Geneva to advocate for their own welfare at this meeting.

They told stories of exploitation, cultural genocide and rampant poverty. Some welcomed such socio-economic ills in absolute desperation. Many indigenous ambassadors could not afford to attend. Some opted to submit position papers or authorize third parties to speak on their behalf. When I sat down with a clan leader from Kenya, he said to me, "we never see a lot of American Indians here because they must not have problems with how they are treated...in fact, we are looking at the U.S.'s body of Indian law as a model for our people." My jaw dropped. Was that the perception of Indian country worldwide? Could the U.S.'s body of Federal Indian law be the ideal model for international treatment of indigenous peoples, their rights, their resources or even their governance?

Indian country is well-experienced in making deals with other Nations. International relationships and deals have been happening for thousands of years. In more recent times, as evidenced by the body of Federal Indian law, tribes generally continue to hold the short end of the stick. Indian country is sadly familiar with third-world living conditions. Tribes have had to fight for their rights to sufficient housing, education, land, food, health care, etc., often one contract at a time and if lucky, through major

legislation. The Ho-Chunk Nation is no stranger to this reality. The Nation's elected officials continue to advocate on the local, state and federal levels to protect the interests of tribal members. We are not alone. The worldwide indigenous population exceeds 370 million - in Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe and the Pacifics; many of which live in deplorable living situations.

Indigenous representatives and other organizations worked for over 3 decades to significantly improve the standard of international human rights of indigenous peoples. After 3 decades of drafting and redrafting, the Declaration is composed of 46 Articles that recognize indigenous peoples, their rights to basic needs and respect. Despite the non-binding nature of the Declaration, a Nation in support of it commits itself to the Declaration's standard of international human rights.

The endorsement of the Declaration marks the beginning of a new era. Last session, we watched the President sign the Indian Health Care Improvement Act and the Tribal Law and Order Act into law. Cases involving decades of discrimination to Indian farmers, trust mismanagement of Indian interests and Indian water rights are nearly settled. Tribes advocated for the White House to reconsider and review its longstanding opposition to the



President Obama smiles as he welcomes his peers to the second White House Tribal Nations Conference.

Declaration. In response, President Obama held formal consultation sessions with tribes on the Declaration. The U.S. was the last of four Nations, which includes Canada, New Zealand, and Australia, to reverse its position on the Declaration. The U.S. now joins the position of the United Nations General Assembly that passed the Declaration in September of 2007. In its press release, the State Department stated, "while the Declaration is not legally binding, it carries considerable moral and political force and complements the President's ongoing efforts to address historical inequities faced by indigenous communities in the United States." For the U.S. on a domestic

level, endorsement of the Declaration renews the federal trust responsibility to tribes, recognizes and provides a framework for respect of their indigenous rights and strengthens the government-to-government relationship.

As the President stated with regard to the US's endorsement of the Declaration, "what matters far more than words -- what matters far more than any resolution or declaration -- are actions to match those words."

For more information on the Declaration, see the webpage for the International Work Group For Indigenous Affairs available at: <http://www.iwgia.org/sw248.aspx>

2010 - Year in review

Continued from Page 9

OCTOBER continued

The Ho-Chunk Nation Legislature approves that money be put into a restricted fund to be used only to provide home ownership opportunities to tribal veterans.

The Ho-Chunk Youth General Council meets in Baraboo. Ninety-seven youth hear reports on a number of subjects and introduce their new logo.

The Nation Health's Department announces it is offering a new education program that targets people with diabetes. The six-month program consists of six classes that will educate attendees on the how to eat healthier, exercise more and control their blood sugar.

The Nation's Johnson O'Malley earns national recognition at the Annual Johnson O'Malley National Conference held October 25-27 in Billings, Montana.

NOVEMBER

President Obama declares November as National Diabetes Month. The Ho-Chunk Nation sponsors events that promote exercise and a better diet.

Veteran's Day events held throughout Ho-Chunk country remembered those who served and thanked those currently serving in the military.

At Ho-Chunk Day, held November 26 in the Executive Building, the Nation honored three original members of the 1963 Wisconsin Winnebago Business Committee. Honored were Steven Kirkwood, Helen Miner Miller and Bernadine Tallmadge.

The Ho-Chunk Nation and Wood County celebrate the completion of a highway improvement project that will benefit visitors to Ho-Chunk Gaming-Nekoosa and all travelers in the area.

DECEMBER

The Nation donates \$5,000 to the Jackson County Veterans Park.

At the "Listening to Silent Voices" Conference held at the Convention Center December 1-2, speakers stressed the role that traditional teachings can play in helping victims of domestic violence heal. The Ho-Chunk Clan Mothers explained how traditional teachings can also help young Ho-Chunk women find their identity.

Throughout Ho-Chunk Country there are reported sightings of a reindeer and sleigh flying in the sky on December 24. Some reports indicate that a jolly, large man with a white beard, wearing a red suit is making stops at every home.



The Ho-Chunk Youth General Council is held October 28 at the House of Wellness.



Alvin Cloud and President Cleveland at Ho-Chunk Day 2010.



Honoring America's veterans at a ceremony held outside Ho-Chunk Convention Center on November 11.



Using federal stimulus funding, the Nation and Wood County improve the highway leading to Ho-Chunk Gaming-Nekoosa. A celebration of the project is held November 29.



An old friend is seen throughout Ho-Chunk Country on December 24.

**HO-CHUNK NATION
LEGISLATURE
REGULAR MEETING
TRIBAL OFFICE BUILDING,
BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI
NOVEMBER 3, 2010**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Vice President Daniel Brown at 10:04 a.m.

ROLL CALL:

President Wilfrid Cleveland (10:06 a.m.)
Vice President Daniel Brown (P)
Rep. Greg Blackdeer (P)
Rep. Douglas Greengrass (EX)
Rep. Clarence Pettibone (EX)
Rep. Roberta Decorah (P)
Rep. James Greender (EX)
Rep. John Holst (P)
Rep. Hope Smith (P)
Rep. Lawrence Walker, Jr (P)
Rep. Greg Littlejohn (P)
Rep. Kathy LoneTree-Whiterabbit (P)
Rep. Patrick Red Eagle (EX)
Rep. Robert TwoBears (P)

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM: Quorum was established.

OPENING PRAYER: The opening prayer was offered by Rep. Roberta Decorah.

President Wilfrid Cleveland arrives at 10:06 a.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

MOTION by Rep. Kathy LoneTree-Whiterabbit to approve the agenda with the additions of Subcommittee Reports 4. Veterans HOP Report, New Business 9. Capital Budget-Social Services, 10. IRS 11. Veterans pow wow request – Volk field, 12. Office of the President – personnel and to go into Executive Session at 1:00 p.m. Second by Rep. Greg Littlejohn. 9-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Legislative Meeting Minutes ~ October 20, 2010

MOTION by Rep. Greg Littlejohn to approve the Legislative meeting minutes of October 20, 2010 with corrections. Second by Rep. Lawrence Walker, Jr. 6-0-3 (Rep. Decorah & Smith, V.P. Brown) **MOTION CARRIED.**

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Finance Meeting Minutes ~ October 27, 2010

MOTION by Rep. Robert TwoBears to approve the Finance Committee meeting minutes of October 27, 2010 with corrections. Second by Rep. Lawrence Walker, Jr. 8-0-1 (Rep. Littlejohn) **MOTION CARRIED.**

Authorizing Closing of Hotel Swimming Pool Project Account at Jackson County Bank

MOTION by Rep. Kathy LoneTree-Whiterabbit to adopt *Ho-Chunk Nation Resolution 11-03-10 A Authorizing Closing of Hotel Swimming Pool Project Account at Jackson County Bank*. Second by Rep. John Holst. 8-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** V.P. Brown was out of the room.

Ho-Chunk Nation Resolution Authorizing Closing of Wittenberg Project Account at Jackson County Bank

MOTION by Rep. Lawrence Walker, Jr to adopt *Ho-Chunk Nation Resolution Authorizing Closing of 11-03-10 B Wittenberg Project Account at Jackson County Bank*. Second by Rep. John Holst. 8-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** V.P. Brown was out of the room.

Per Capita Loan Policy

MOTION by Rep. Greg Blackdeer to approve the additional language to include "if pending or outstanding claims against the applicant's Per Capita distribution exist; (a) the applicant must provide proof of payment to receive their maximum loan amount less any applicable handling fee or (b) a new loan will be made for no more than the current maximum loan amount less any amount owed from the prior distribution and any applicable handling fee. Second by Rep. Lawrence Walker, Jr. 9-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

District 1 Elite Elder Request

MOTION by Rep. Kathy LoneTree-Whiterabbit to table the Elizabeth Deere (Bonita Clairmont) request, until Mrs. Clairmont files a claim with her insurance company, per the recommendation of Legislative Council. Second by Rep. Greg Littlejohn. 8-0-1 (Rep. Robert TwoBears) **MOTION CARRIED.**

Halloween/ Christmas Youth Gift
MOTION by Rep. Kathy LoneTree-Whiterabbit to approve a \$75.00 gift for the youth, those under the age of 19 as of June 15, 2011, this is a combination of Halloween and Christmas. The funds are to be allocated from the old Youth Slot Fund. Second by Rep. Roberta Decorah. 9-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Special Finance Meeting Minutes ~ October 28, 2010

MOTION by Rep. Greg Littlejohn to approve the Special Finance Committee meeting minutes of October 28, 2010 with corrections. Second by V.P. Daniel Brown. 6-0-3 (Rep. Decorah, TwoBears & Walker, Jr.) **MOTION CARRIED.**

Development Meeting Minutes ~ October 29, 2010

MOTION by Rep. John Holst to approve the Development Committee meeting minutes of October 29, 2010 with corrections. Second by Rep. Roberta Decorah. 9-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Wazee Area Commission

MOTION by Rep. Greg Blackdeer to apply for the Clean Water Loan to upgrade the Wazee Waste water plant. Second by Rep. Kathy LoneTree-Whiterabbit. 9-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Social Services Capital Budget

MOTION by Rep. Kathy LoneTree-Whiterabbit to amend the agenda to address Social Services Capital Budget. Second by Rep. Roberta Decorah. 9-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Social Services Capital Budget

MOTION by Rep. Kathy LoneTree-Whiterabbit to amend the May 5, 2010 Special Finance Committee Meeting minutes to omit the word "Hybrid" in the motion approving the Vehicle Purchases for Social Services and per the recommendation of Executive Director of Social Services, Elizabeth Haller. That TAU is in need of a snow plow and the remaining amount of vehicle purchases is for TAU, and that this is to be on an emergency basis. Second by Rep. Roberta Decorah. 9-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

NEW BUSINESS

Adoption of Ho-Chunk Nation Legislature Resolution – Police Department Establishment

MOTION by Rep. Clarence Pettibone to adopt *Ho-Chunk Nation Legislature Resolution 11-3-10 C – Police Department Establishment*. Second by Rep. Robert TwoBears. 7-2 (Reps. Blackdeer & Decorah)-(Rep. LoneTree-Whiterabbit) **MOTION CARRIED.**

Interactive Health Solutions – Wellness Initiative~ Rep. Littlejohn

MOTION by Rep. Greg Littlejohn to have a special session prior to January 2011 for preparation to implement the Interactive Health Solution by July 1, 2011. *Motion dies for lack of second.*

MOTION by Rep. Clarence Pettibone that the remaining 1,407 people complete their health risk assessments for the Interactive Health Solution Group. Second by Rep. Greg Littlejohn. 5-4 (Reps. Blackdeer, Decorah, Holst, & LoneTree-Whiterabbit)-1 (V.P. Brown) **MOTION CARRIED.**

Adoption of Ho-Chunk Nation Resolution – Granting a Right-Of-Way Easement for HCN-HOP Krome Road Property

MOTION by Rep. Robert TwoBears to adopt *Ho-Chunk Nation Resolution 11-3-10 D Granting a Right-Of-Way Easement for HCN-HOP Krome Road Property*. Second by Rep. Clarence Pettibone. 10-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Adoption of Ho-Chunk Nation Resolution – Fractionated Interest Purchases the Indian Land Consolidation Act

MOTION by V.P. Daniel Brown to adopt *Ho-Chunk Nation Resolution 11-3-10 E – Fractionated Interest Purchases the Indian Land Consolidation Act*. Second by Rep. Roberta Decorah. 9-0-1 (Rep. Blackdeer) **MOTION CARRIED.**

Declaration of Indigenous Rights ~ Rep. TwoBears

MOTION by Rep. Robert TwoBears to respond with a position statement regarding the Declaration of Indigenous Rights. Second by Rep. John Holst. 9-0-1 (Rep. Blackdeer) **MOTION CARRIED.**

Gaming Reports ~ Rep. Holst

MOTION by Rep. John Holst that the Office of the President direct to the gaming facilities to send the monthly gaming reports one(1) week prior to the Finance meeting and that they are available by phone. Second by Rep. Kathy LoneTree-Whiterabbit. 9-0-1 (Rep. TwoBears) **MOTION CARRIED.**

District Concerns:

District 1:

MOTION by Rep. Kathy LoneTree-Whiterabbit to approve \$18,000 for elite elder, Milton Funmaker for costs associated for residing at the Coun-

V.P. Daniel Brown. 9-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** *The meeting recesses at 12:23 p.m.*

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called back to order by President Wilfrid Cleveland at 1:38 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

President Wilfrid Cleveland (P)
Vice President Daniel Brown (P)
Rep. Greg Blackdeer (P)
Rep. Douglas Greengrass (EX)
Rep. Clarence Pettibone (EX)
Rep. Roberta Decorah (P)
Rep. James Greender (EX)
Rep. John Holst (P)
Rep. Hope Smith (P)
Rep. Lawrence Walker, Jr (P)
Rep. Greg Littlejohn (P)
Rep. Kathy LoneTree-Whiterabbit (P)
Rep. Patrick Red Eagle (EX)
Rep. Robert TwoBears (P)

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM: Quorum was established.

OPENING PRAYER: The opening prayer was offered by Rep. Roberta Decorah.

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<b

ENROLLMENT

Ca He Wakšu wira 27, 2010

The following individual applicants have met the requirements of the HO-CHUNK NATION CODE (HCC) TITLE 2 – GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 7 – TRIBAL ENROLLMENT AND MEMBER CODE, Enacted by Legislature: October 16, 2007 in accordance with the Constitution of the Ho-Chunk Nation and the Tribal Enrollment and Membership Code. The Enrollment Officer will certify a Notice of Eligibility for Membership and will publish such Notice in the Nation's newsletter and on the Nation's website. Upon publication a sixty (60) Day notice period begins. The Notice of Eligibility for Membership must include the Applicant's name, date of birth, Base Roll ancestry, Ho-Chunk Blood and parent. There will be an exemption for adoptions. Pursuant to Wisconsin and other States' Laws certain information will be neither published nor released. This determination may be appealed to the Committee on Tribal Enrollment (contact the Office of Tribal Enrollment) by any adult (18 years and older) enrolled Ho-Chunk Nation Member within sixty (60) Days after the date on which the Office of Tribal Enrollment publishes Notice of Eligibility for Membership.

| APPLICANT NAME | DATE OF BIRTH | BLOOD QUANTUM | ANCESTOR | FATHER | MOTHER |
|---|---------------|---------------|---|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| BEHRENS, Isabella Lynn | 06/09/2006 | 1/4 | He Lo Wa Kix He La Kaw James Fishtail Lincoln N – 1910 - #00284 | Ronald James Behrens | ----- |
| BEHRENS, Olivia Anne | 11/18/2002 | 1/4 | He Lo Wa Kix He La Kaw James Fishtail Lincoln N – 1910 - #00284 | Ronald James Behrens | ----- |
| BLACKDEER PRADO, Darwin Gabriel | 06/29/2010 | 7/16 | Chau Zap Kah Black Deer 1881 - #00174 | ----- | Rhiannon MorningStar Blackdeer |
| DELAROSA, Isaiah Lopez | 07/01/1991 | 1/4 | Wa Xo Pi Ni Ska Kah Allen Sam Decorra 1901 - #00324 | Cyril Delarosa | ----- |
| DOMENGET, Stella Mae | 02/20/2009 | 33/64 | Cha Wak Ja Xi Gah Will Greendeer 1901 - #00080 | Lance Michael Domenget | Eleanor Marie Funmaker |
| ELK, Allyson Rose Lynn | 03/25/2002 | 5/16 | Ho Chax Ka Wa Gah Mitchell Mike Redcloud, Sr 1901 - #00816 | Non - MEMBER | Missy Jean Redcloud |
| GOODEBEAR, Mila Idalia | 04/14/2010 | 1/4 | Do Sha Na Ska Kah Ray Goodbear 1901 - #00083 | Cody T Goodbear | Non - MEMBER |
| GREENGRASS, Ashley Renee | 07/02/2005 | 1/2 | Che Win Che Kay Ray He Kah Ray Goodbear 1901 - #00083 | Anthony Floyd Greengrass | Ariana Rae Youngthunder |
| HUNT, Anangogaa Ikwe | 07/02/2010 | 1/4 | Hay Na Kah Lute R D Whiterabbit 1901 - #00070 | Shawnee Lance Hunt | ----- |
| LEE, Destinee Jade | 03/03/2006 | 133/256 | Che O Mon Gin Kah Ray White 1901 - #01121 | Vance Weston White | Heather Cae Lee |
| LEE, Heather Cae | 09/27/1988 | 63/128 | Hunk Nik Cha Kah Floyd Thomas Cloud WhiteEagle 1901 - #1085 | Daniel Victor WhiteEagle | ----- |
| LOPEZ, Nikolas Enrique O | 02/26/2010 | 1/4 | Haw Kaw Kah Frank Yellowfeather Climer 1881 - #00246 | ----- | Elaina Sue Lopez |
| LUJAN, Joaquin Royce | 01/20/2010 | 3/8 | Wau Kon Chow Neek Kah George Winneshiek 1881 - #00432 | ----- | Terry Lee Snake |
| MCKEE, Alyse Shayne | 01/26/2010 | 1/4 | Hoe Hump Chee Kay Ray He Kah Charlie Greengrass 1881 - #00286 | Carl Francis McKee | ----- |
| MENORE, Everett Lee | 03/29/1998 | 5/8 | Na He Kah Nathaniel F.S. Decorra 1901 - #01176 | Non - MEMBER | Michelle Lee Funmaker |
| MILLER-MARSH, Memengwaa Gabrielle Falcon | 04/29/2009 | 1/4 | HeWeeChawZhauKayKah Thomas Falcon 1881 - #00410 | Non - MEMBER | Chasity Ann Miller |
| ONTIVEROS GALLEGOS, Aihiana Dah-Yani | 05/17/2010 | 1/4 | Chep A Hip Kah George Deer 1901 - #00300 | ----- | Vicky Marie Deer |
| SCHAETZKA, Adriella Jenavieve | 05/29/2010 | 1/4 | Ha Ga Kah Lewis Decorra 1901 - #00406 | ----- | Chantel Demetria Decorah |
| SMITH, Brenda Nicole | 07/11/1994 | 1/4 | Ma Na Pay Na Shin Kah Paul Spear Smith 1901 - #00581 | Earl Everette Smith | ----- |
| SMITH, Cassandra Faith | 12/16/2004 | 1/4 | Wau Soo Mon E Kah Frank Snowball 1881 - #00502 | ----- | Laura Lynne Snowball Connors |
| SMITH, Jayna Leigh Rose | 04/14/2009 | 1/4 | Wau Kon Chow Neek Kah George Winneshiek 1881 - #00432 | Non - MEMBER | Shelby Lynn Wesho |
| THUNDER, Jocelyn Kimberly | 12/10/2009 | 3/8 | Wah Qua Ho Pin Kah Henry Thunder 1881 - #00129 | Josiah Henry Thunder | Non - MEMBER |
| THUNDER, Josiah Henry III | 06/30/2008 | 3/8 | Wah Qua Ho Pin Kah Henry Thunder 1881 - #00129 | Josiah Henry Thunder | Non - MEMBER |
| VASQUEZ-LOPEZ, Valiance Leila | 05/30/2006 | 1/4 | Wauk Ja He Sep Kah Tom Johnson Wallace W – 1910 - #01121 | ----- | Keisha Marie Vasquez |
| VINSON GOURD, Jice-Lynn Mahealani Tiawana Kamai-Lee | 03/27/1988 | 1/4 | Maw Naw Pae Kah (Soldier) Jim Brown 1881 - #00506 | Alexander Durance (Brown) Gourd | ----- |
| YOUNG, Ariel Sha'ton Maree | 03/17/2003 | 1/4 | We Hun Kah Kate Ella Davis 1901 - #01186 | ----- | Joan Marie Wright |
| YOUNG, DeAndre Nehemiah | 04/27/2004 | 1/4 | We Hun Kah Kate Ella Davis | ----- | Joan Marie Wright |

Helpful tips and reminders for the winter season

Submitted by
Malachi Emery
Residential Services
Counselor - HCN Dept.
of Housing & Public Works
HOME OWNERSHIP PROGRAM

APPLICATIONS- Now is the time of year to update your applications for the Home Ownership Program. Please turn in your updated applications to Patti Hansen at the department of housing.

TAXES- People who own a home through HOP that is on non-tribal land should turn in their tax bills to the department of housing as soon as possible.

HOME SAFETY

DRYER FIRES- Be sure to

clean the lint trap and the vent on your dryers. Excess lint can build up and cause a serious fire. In fact, on average, more than 13,000 fires start in laundry rooms in the United States each year, resulting in 10 deaths and \$97 million in property damage. Nearly 4,000 of these fires arise from lint buildup that occurs when people fail to clean their dryer vents.

SMOKE DETECTORS- Should be installed on every level of the home, away from the kitchen- it's not a pizza timer! and near sleeping areas. It is important to test them regularly, and have the batteries changed. An easy way to remember this is to do it when you change your

clocks at daylight savings time. Another key thing to remember is to have an evacuation plan and most importantly- practice it!

CARBON MONOXIDE- What is carbon monoxide? Carbon monoxide (CO) is a gas that is produced when fuel—gasoline, propane, natural gas, oil, wood, or coal—is burned. CO is extremely dangerous to people when emitted in an enclosed, unventilated area, such as a house, garage or car. It is important to have a CO detector installed in your home. CO detectors should be installed about 5 feet off the ground, on every floor, and near sleeping areas. They are inexpensive (\$ under \$50) and are available

at home improvement and hardware stores as well as discount stores like Wal-Mart and Target. Look for one that is battery operated and be sure to change them every year, just like smoke detectors. CO detectors should also be replaced every five years, as they lose sensitivity over time.

SNOW SHOVELING- Be heart healthy and back friendly while shoveling this winter with these tips-Avoid caffeine or nicotine before beginning. These are stimulants, which may increase your heart rate and cause your blood vessels to constrict. This places extra stress on the heart. Drink plenty of water. Dehydration is just as big an

issue in cold winter months as it is in the summer. Dress in several layers so you can remove a layer as needed. Pick the right shovel for you. A smaller blade will require you to lift less snow, putting less strain on your body. Begin shoveling slowly to avoid placing a sudden demand on your heart. Pace yourself and take breaks as needed. Stand with your feet about hip width for balance and keep the shovel close to your body. Bend from the knees (not the back) and tighten your stomach muscles as you lift the snow. Avoid twisting movements. Most importantly listen to your body. Stop if you feel pain!

NOTICE AND RULES OF GENERAL PRIMARY ELECTION TUESDAY MARCH 8, 2011

Notice is hereby served to all eligible voters of the Ho-Chunk Nation that the Ho-Chunk Nation Election Board, in accordance with the Constitution of the Ho-Chunk Nation has called a General Primary Election. ARTICLE VIII – ELECTIONS and the Election Ordinance 2 HCC Sec. 6, states in relevant part:

3. Elections, c. Primary Election and Runoff Elections.

(1) Primary Elections shall be held prior to an Election with three(3) or more candidates in order to ensure compliance with the majority vote requirement as provided for in paragraphs 1c and 1e, above.

(2) If no candidate in any Primary Election receives more than 50% of the votes cast in such Election, the two candidates with the highest vote totals from the Primary Election (and any candidates) tied with the lower of such totals) shall appear on the ballot in the Runoff Election. When there are two (2) seats vacant in a district, the top two (2) vote getters for any vacant seats, if no candidate has received 50% + 1 vote, shall be on the ballot for the General Election or Runoff Election. (3) Primary Elections shall be conducted in the manner prescribed by this Ordinance and in accordance with the timetable adopted by the Election Board.

THE FOLLOWING TERMS OF FOUR (4) YEARS WILL BE VACANT:

President

July 2011 – June 2015

Legislature

District 1:

July 2011 – June 2015

Seat 2

District 2:

July 2011 – June 2015

Seat 1

District 3:

July 2011 – June 2015

Seat 1

District 4:

July 2011 – June 2015

Seat 1

District 5:

July 2011 – June 2015

Seat 2

SUPREME COURT

Associate Justice 2

Four (4) Year Term

July 2011 – June 2015

NOMINATIONS OF CANDIDATES

The official candidacy forms may be obtained from the Election Board Members or the Election Board Office. A candidate for elective office shall submit an Official Nomination Petition, Declaration of Candidacy and a \$5.00 Filing fee by hand delivery or U.S. Mail to the Election Board office before the close of the nomination period on Friday, January 7, 2011 at 4:30 p.m. ORIGINAL FORMS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE ELECTION

BOARD. To be eligible for Legislative Office, candidates must comply with 6e of the Election Ordinance which states, "...candidates have resided for at least one (1) year immediately prior to filing the petition declaring her/his candidacy...Residency is defined as the permanent physical address stated on the periodic Address Verification Forms, and possess a four-year baccalaureate degree conferred by an accredited institution of higher education. This requirement shall only impact candidates for the Legislature for all elections occurring after June 20, 2009.

ELIGIBLE VOTERS:

Any enrolled member of the Ho-Chunk Nation who is at least eighteen (18) years old and who has resided in their respective district for at least three (3) months. *See Election Board Ordinance Sec. 9 (b).*

REGISTRATION:

Each person seeking to vote must register at the polling place by showing identification before receiving an Official Ballot. If a person cannot write, that person must sign his/her name with a mark before two (2) witnesses. A Ho-Chunk translator will be available to assist any tribal member who requests assistance.

ELIGIBILITY DISPUTES:

Any individual whose name does not appear on the eligible voters list can claim the right to vote by presenting a written challenge to the Election Board. Any eligible voter may challenge the eligibility of an individual's name appearing on the eligible voters list by presenting a written challenge to the Election Board.

The Election Board shall rule on all written challenges to the list of eligible voters immediately after the close of the challenge period. Page 20 Section 2, (Deadline Wednesday, February 16, 2011).

Ho-Chunk Nation Election Board
206 South Roosevelt Road
P.O Box 756
Black River Falls, WI. 54615
TELEPHONE (715)284-8900
TOLL FREE (800)890-0583
FAX NUMBER(715)284-8600
E-MAIL:
Election.board@ho-chunk.com

Deadline to challenge the candidates (s) list to Election Board is Thursday, February 17, 2011 @ 4:30 p.m.

ABSENTEE VOTING:

A voter may vote by absentee ballot provided the Election Board receives the absentee ballot request in writing no later than Thursday, March 3, 2011 by 4:00 P.M. *See Election Board Ordinance, Page 13, sec. 11 a(1)* Requests MUST INCLUDE the eligible voter's name printed or typed (with signature), physical address where the ballot will be delivered (we use UPS next Day Air – UPS Next Day Air will not deliver to a P.O. Box), daytime telephone number and enrollment number.

REFLECTS REDISTRICTING CHANGES EFFECTIVE FOR PRIMARY & GENERAL ELECTION. Please check eligible voter's lists for your Districts.



Absentee Ballots must be received before 7:00 P.M. on Tuesday, March 8, 2011.

Absentee ballots may be returned by overnight mail, so they maybe received at the Election Board Office or the polling places prior to the Election Day. NOTE THAT FEDEX and UPS NEXT DAY AIR DOES NOT DELIVER IN BLACK RIVER FALLS ON SATURDAYS.

POSTING ELECTION RESULTS:

The Election Board shall certify and post the official election results within three (3) days after the date of election.

CONTESTING OF ELECTION RESULTS:

Any member of the Ho-Chunk Nation may challenge the results of any election results within ten (10) days after the Election Board certifies the results. The Trial Court shall hear and decide a challenge to any election within twenty (20) days after the challenge is filed in the Trial Court.

ELECTIONEERING:

There shall be no electioneering within fifty (50) feet of any polling places.

GENERAL PRIMARY ELECTION DAY
Tuesday, March 8, 2011

POST NOTICE OF ELECTION

Wednesday, December 8, 2010

POST ELIGIBLE VOTERS LIST

Sunday, February 6, 2011

CHALLENGES TO THE ELIGIBLE VOTERS LIST MUST BE RECEIVED PRIOR TO 4:30 PM

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

LAST DAY TO REQUEST ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Thursday, March 3, 2011

4:00 PM

GENERAL ELECTION
Tuesday, June 7, 2011

POLLING PLACES:

**OPEN AT 8:00 A.M.
AND CLOSE AT 7:00 P.M.**

•BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI.
TRIBAL AGING UNIT
INDIAN MISSION
715/284-0811

•TOMAH, WI.
TRIBAL AGING UNIT
358 EOS ROAD
608/372-4547

•LACROSSE, WI.
LACROSSE BRANCH OFFICE
724 MAIN STREET
608/783-6025

•BARABOO, WI.
HOUSE OF WELLNESS
S2845 WHITEEAGLE ROAD
608/355-1254

•WISCONSIN RAPIDS, WI.
CHAK-HAH-CHEE COMM.
BLD.
916 CHAK-HAH-CHEE LANE
715/886-5444

•WITTENBERG, WI.
TRIBAL AGING UNIT
W17956 WITT-BIRN
TOWNSLINE ROAD
715/253-3536

•CHICAGO, IL.
CHICAGO BRANCH OFFICE
5744 W IRVING PARK RD
773/202-8433

•MILWAUKEE, WI.
MILWAUKEE BRANCH
OFFICE
3501 S. HOWELL AVENUE
414/747-8680

•ST PAUL/MINNEAPOLIS, MN
MPLS./ST PAUL BRANCH
OFFICE
1821 UNIVERSITY AVE.
Suite 409 N
651/641-1801

•MADISON, WI.
MADISON BRANCH OFFICE
1320 MENDOTA STREET
608/277-9741
608/277-9964

•WISCONSIN DELLS, WI.
INDIAN HEIGHTS BLDG.
N9557 Dyer Avenue
WIS. DELLS, WI.
715/299-6104

•GREEN BAY, WI.
PARISH HALL
2936 Freedom Road
ONEIDA, WI.
920/869-1059

Wisconsin Department of Children and Families "Best Outcomes for Indian Children Project"

In November 2009, the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families (DCF) was notified that a project proposal submitted to the Midwest Child Welfare Implementation Center was approved for a three year period. The project, entitled the "Best Outcomes for Indian Children," is focused on implementing the newly passed state law, the Wisconsin Indian Child Welfare Act, and establishing consistent and uniform state-wide application of the federal Indian Child Welfare Act and Wisconsin Indian Child Welfare Act.

The project recently hired the Project Coordinator through a DCF sub-contract with the Ho-Chunk Nation and is now accepting applications for two 'Project Facilitator' positions. The basic responsibilities include providing consultation and technical assistance to county agencies regarding WICWA implementation and developing models or systems that strengthen the communication and collaboration among county and tribal child welfare agencies in providing services to Indian children. One position will be located with the St. Croix Chippewa Tribal Community and the other will be located with the Stockbridge-Munsee Community.

The Project Facilitators will need to have the following skills and experience:

- High education degree preferred in Human Service field, experience in lieu of degrees will be considered.
- Must have experience a minimum of eight years working with tribal governments or tribal agencies.
- Must possess advanced computer skills and have some knowledge of child welfare information systems, such as eWiSACWIS.
- Must possess good oral and written communication skills.
- Must be able to work independently.
- Must be able to interact with public and private agency staff forming a good working relationship.
- Knowledge of child welfare policies, laws for state/county governments and tribal governments.
- Ability to travel throughout Wisconsin.

Those interested in applying for the position should forward a cover letter and resume to:

Patina Park Zink, J.D., MCWIC Project Coordinator
Ho-Chunk Nation DOJ, W9814 Airport Road
P.O. Box 667, Black River Falls, WI 54615

The position will be open until filled.

ATTENTION

The cost of meals at Ho-Chunk Nation Tribal Aging Unit sites for participants under 60 years of age will be \$5.00 per meal.

This recommendation was made at the Tribal Aging Elderly Advisory Board on November 17, 2010.

The donation of \$3.50 per meal for participants over 60 years of age will remain.

There will also be a reservation system in place at each of the meal sites. This procedure will enable the cooks to prepare the right amount of meals.

Please call your meal site to find out about the reservation system.

Tribal Aging Unit needs to form a nutrition board. If there are any elders from the elder feeding sites interested in serving on this board, please call Marie Lewis, Tribal Aging Director at 1-888-701-8284.

These changes in meal costs and reservation will be effective January 3, 2011.

NOTICE OF TITLE VII PUBLIC HEARING TOMAH AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Tomah Area School District will hold two public hearings during one meeting time scheduled for **Thursday, January 13, 2011** starting at 4:30 pm at the Housing Department conference room, Building #23 at the V.A.

The first part of the meeting will allow parents of Native American children the opportunity to provide input concerning Public Law 81-874. The second part of the meeting will inform parents of the needs assessment process for the district's 2011-2012 Title VII Application of the Indian Education Act. In addition, parents will participate in a discussion of the application's provisions and be allowed to provide suggestions regarding the application.

Priscilla Cleveland
Home/School Coordinator-Teacher
Tomah Area School District

Legal Notice

If You Are a Native American Who Tried to Get a Farm Loan or Loan Servicing from the USDA,

You Could Receive Benefits from a \$760 Million Class Action Settlement.

A class action Settlement with the United States Department of Agriculture ("USDA") has been reached. The lawsuit claimed the USDA discriminated against Native Americans who applied for or tried to apply for farm loans or loan servicing. The USDA denies it did anything wrong.

Am I included?

The Class includes all Native American farmers and ranchers who:

- Farmed or ranched or attempted to farm or ranch between January 1, 1981 and November 24, 1999;
- Tried to get a farm loan or loan servicing from the USDA during that period; and
- Complained about discrimination to the USDA either on their own or through a representative during the time period.

You are not eligible for this Settlement if you filed a claim, or intend to file a claim, in another USDA discrimination case like Pigford I or Pigford II (Black farmers), Garcia (Hispanic farmers) or Love (Women farmers).

Because of a law passed by Congress, you are also not eligible for this Settlement if you either:

- Experienced discrimination only between January 1 and November 23, 1997; or
- Complained of discrimination only between July 1 and November 23, 1997.

What does the Settlement provide?

The \$760 million Settlement will pay cash to Class Members for valid claims as well as attorneys' fees (between 4% and 8%, subject to Court approval) and awards. The Settlement includes up to \$80 million in USDA loan forgiveness for Class Members who qualify. The USDA will pay an additional \$20 million to implement the Settlement and will make some changes to their farm loan programs. Any money left after all payments and expenses have been made will be donated to one or more organizations that help Native American farmers and ranchers.

How do I get benefits?

You will need to file a claim by **December 24, 2011** to get benefits. After the Court approves the Settlement, meetings will be held across the country to help Class Members file claims. You can register for a Claims Package at the website or by calling the toll-free number.

What are my other rights?

- If you want to keep your right to sue the USDA about the claims in this Settlement, you must exclude yourself by **February 28, 2011**. Unless you exclude yourself, you will be bound by the terms of this Settlement.
- If you stay in the Settlement, you can object to or comment on it by **February 28, 2011**.

The Court will hold a hearing on **April 28, 2011** to consider whether to approve the Settlement and the attorneys' fees. The Court has appointed attorneys to represent the Class. You or your own lawyer may ask to appear and speak at the hearing at your own expense.

For More Information: 1-888-233-5506 www.IndianFarmClass.com



Small Business Commercial Lending Program

First Nations Community Financial is proud to announce that we will now be offering Small Business Loans. If you are interested in applying for a Small Business Loan please contact us for Program Guidelines and Application Materials.

First Nations Community Financial

PO Box 588
320 Epinal Ave.
Tomah, WI 54660
Phone: 608-374-2104
Fax: 608-374-2086
E-mail: FNCF@ho-chunk.com





During a luncheon held December 21 at the Executive Building, members of the Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Social Services said goodbye to

Nancy Toth

The Program Manager for the Division of Child and Family Services for the past four years, Nancy is leaving to serve as the Human Resource Director for the Seneca Nation in upstate New York.



Congratulations

**Matthew and
Trisha Carriaga**

**Married
November 2, 2010**



Congratulations

"YOU GO GIRL"

Congratulations to

Lorinda Bird

on winning 1st Place at the Yavapai Nation - We-ko-pa Golf Tournament in Scottsdale AZ on November 19-20, 2010. Lorinda competed against women from all over Indian Country... "Way to Represent!!"

Proud of you
Love Kim C



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Wade Heston Decorah on 1-17-80 Mariah Eva Blackdeer on 1-4-93

Justine Jayne Rash on 1-17-97

Dalton Kyle Blackdeer on 1-1-95

Love from all their relatives



In loving memory of
Exilda Mary
Rockman Stone
HA HE MANI WE-GA
"Walks in the night"
4/5/1925 – 11/06/10

The eagle flew over to bless the great-great granddaughter of Manape Xetega, chief of the Greenlake Band of the Hocabs Wazijaci Nation. She was acknowledged to be an expert basket weaver of black ash basketry arts, an endangered traditional art craft.

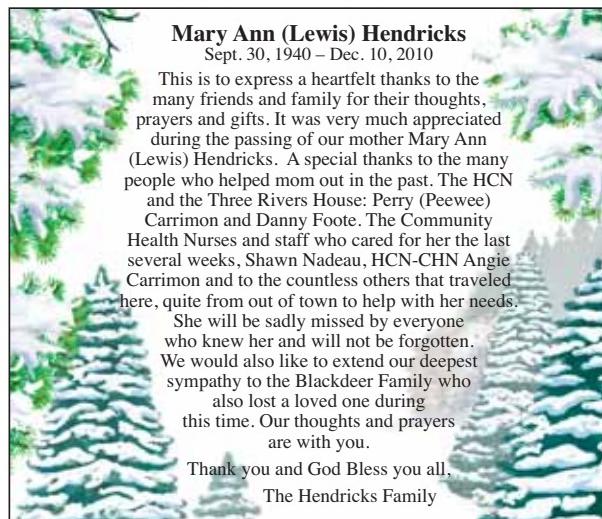
Born in Wittenberg, Wisconsin to Grover Rockman and Bessie WhiteEagle, she loved the earth and all her creatures. She had many Grand and Great-Grandchildren, as well as many nieces and nephews, to honor her life and to remember her wise words.

Her children are as followed:

Dr. Jeremy Patrick Rockman Ed.D., honorably discharged combat veteran of the illustrious 1st Marine Division, Gloria Ann Matha, Shirley Jean Petersen, David Lee Radtke, Cynthia Marie Radtke, Sandrea Louise Radtke, Conn Marcia Radtke, Steven Wayne Radtke, Timothy Lee Radtke and Robin Aaron Stone. Married to Robert Stone since 1963, she had a wonderful life with him, they were soulmates.

We love you nani and know you are celebrating your new life with God. Thank you to the Eagle Clan, all the cooks and all who helped with the ceremony. It was beautiful and blessed.

~ Jennifer Anne Jones



Mary Ann (Lewis) Hendricks
Sept. 30, 1940 – Dec. 10, 2010

This is to express a heartfelt thanks to the many friends and family for their thoughts, prayers and gifts. It was very much appreciated during the passing of our mother Mary Ann (Lewis) Hendricks. A special thanks to the many people who helped mom out in the past. The HCN and the Three Rivers House: Perry (Peewee) Carrimon and Danny Foote. The Community Health Nurses and staff who cared for her the last several weeks, Shawn Nadeau, HCN-CHN Angie Carrimon and to the countless others that traveled here, quite from out of town to help with her needs.

She will be sadly missed by everyone who knew her and will not be forgotten. We would also like to extend our deepest sympathy to the Blackdeer Family who also lost a loved one during this time. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Thank you and God Bless you all,
The Hendricks Family

In loving memory of my brother
Franklin Jonah Jones

Passed last year December 18th, I was with him for his last breath, honored to be there and hold his hand. He is my best friend and will forever be in my heart. He is a wonderful singer, has a beautiful garden and loves bunnies. I sing a song for you brother as you are part of me forever.

Love your baby sister,
Jenni Jones



Racing with the best

NASCAR team approaches driver Troy Rave

John Kozlowicz
Staff Writer

On November 30, Ho-Chunk Nation tribal member (Troy Rave) was invited to join Roush Fenway Racing, one of NASCAR's largest teams.

Troy's father, Rodney, explained that following a chance meeting with a member of Roush racing in Homestead, Florida, everything happened quickly. "I told him about Troy and they seemed interested. Things just took off from there."

As a member of BlackJack Racing, Troy spent last summer competing at the La Crosse Fairgrounds Speedway, where he was voted "2010 Kwik Trip Late Model Rookie of the Year." He was also recognized as a top short track driver by the National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing.

Considered one of the "young guns" in racing, the 22-year-old driver has been invited to drive in the Camping World Truck Series, part of a NASCAR weekend.

Currently in the process of seeking the sponsorship that is a pre-requisite for joining Roush Racing, Rodney explained that Troy was invited to join Roush in part because of his Native American heritage, a heritage that Roush would like to promote on the racing circuit. "There has never been a Native American driver at the top level of racing," Rodney said. "Troy could be the first."

Rodney and Troy recently met with the Ho-Chunk Nation Legislature in hopes of getting their permission to contact some of the Nation's vendors, who in turn might be willing to sponsor Troy. With their help, Rodney explained



Troy Rave with the plaque that recognizes him as a top short track driver.



Troy with Roush Fenway Racing representatives Laura Higley and Robin Johnson.

"the Nation could be creating our own celebrity."

The NASCAR season runs from February to November and Troy is aware that his lifestyle will change. While racing at a different venue each week means living out of a suitcase, he said that he's excited about the potential opportunity. "It's something I always wanted to do," he said.

Rodney said that as part of the agreement, Roush Racing would promote the Ho-Chunk Nation and its enterprises.



Enlarged plaque Troy received as a top short track driver.

A championship effort

Ho-Chunk members Tim and Will Decorah help Waunakee capture title

John Kozlowicz
Staff Writer

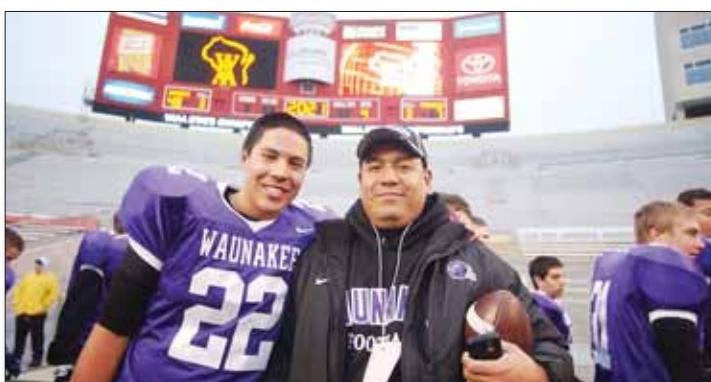
Tim Decorah and his son, Will, are part of one of Wisconsin's most successful high school football programs. In November the Waunakee Warriors repeated as Division II champs, winning the title for the fourth time since 1999.

Tim has been a part of the program for 14 years, including the last five years leading the freshman team and this year celebrated the championship with Will, a sophomore quarterback on the team.

Will spent the year in a backup role following a thumb injury he suffered prior to the season opener. He did appear in a number of games, including the championship game and expects to compete

for the starting job next year. He is currently a member of the Waunakee varsity basketball team that was undefeated after four games.

An outstanding athlete, Tim was elected to the Wisconsin Dells High School of Hall of Fame in 2001. In addition to coaching the football team, he is currently coaching the 7th grade traveling boys basketball team, where his son, Sam, is one of the players. Asked how he feels about coaching his children, he stated that "coaching my kids is great. It gives me the opportunity to be with them another two to three hours a day during the season. Not many fathers get that opportunity to coach their kids."



Will and Tim Decorah celebrate a championship at Camp Randall Stadium in Madison.